

HMLA-469 Family Readiness Vision



The Marine Corps' most valuable resource is the individual Marine and his/her family. The very success of Vengeance as a squadron is inextricably linked to the well-being and resiliency of the individual Marine and their family.

Family Readiness is the ability of the individual Marine or Sailor and their family to balance the challenges of a military lifestyle, family, career, and mission events. Vengeance Marines and Sailors must ensure their personal and family affairs are in order so that they may remain fully focused on the mission at hand. As a husband and father of two teenage sons, I know firsthand that this is often easier said than done.

In my mind, the goal of the Family Readiness program is to provide resource information, training, and access to support services in order to ensure Vengeance family members are **WELCOMED, INFORMED, RESILIENT, and READY**. I view "family" to mean **ALL** family members; the family we're born into, the family we're sworn into, or the family we're married into.

Welcomed: First let me thank you and your family's commitment to Vengeance. My wife Joyce and I know the challenge, headache, worry, heartache, and stress of squadron life. We look forward to meeting each and every member of the Vengeance family and sincerely hope for your active input and participation in our Family Readiness program.

Informed: Mrs. Samantha Dunn serves as the Squadron's Family Readiness Officer (FRO) and is the critical link between Vengeance Marines, their families, and the information and resources they often need. It is our job to ensure all family members:

- Understand the additional responsibilities that fall on family members when their Marine departs.
- Are knowledgeable of and able to utilize information about benefits, entitlements, programs, and services provided through the Department of Defense, the Marine Corps, and the Community.
- Are knowledgeable of the Command Structure and resources available to assist and contribute to personal and family readiness goals.

Resilient: As Marines and Sailors, we know how much our family members have sacrificed in order to support our decision to serve our nation - **WE MUST NEVER TAKE THAT FOR GRANTED!** A resilient Marine, Sailor, and family is better able to balance life stressors. Resilient service members and families are both independent AND interdependent, leveraging support systems available through the Command, the Family Readiness Officer, other military families, neighbors, and the community.

Ready: A ready member of the Vengeance family is better prepared for family separations and ever-changing life events. Ready family members do not have all the answers, but understand where to find help and assistance when needed. Participation in Squadron events, L.I.N.K.S., financial management classes, Marine Corps Community Services, medical and dental health services, and many other Marine Corps Family Programs positively contributes to ready Vengeance Marines and Families.

Our families are an essential part of the Vengeance team and must have the support they need. Our operational tempo will remain high for the near future, and we must do everything possible to strengthen all elements of our team. Again, thank you for your commitment to the Vengeance family! Joyce and I look forward to meeting each of our Vengeance families over the coming months.



Lieutenant Colonel Richard D. Joyce
Commanding Officer, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 469

"Attack with Vengeance!"